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| **Wednesday, August 20, 2014 140820-1 In this Issue: Wall Street Journal to Spotlight Metro’s Joint Development Program Go Metro and Experience Môfo** |
| **Wall Street Journal to Spotlight Metro’s Joint Development Program**  The Wall Street Journal is expected to run a story within the next week about Metro’s Joint Development Program as part of a series of articles looking at transit agency real estate investments across the nation. I, along with Metro staff, spoke with the reporter to note that Metro is one of the region’s largest public land developers, with approximately 40 joint development projects either completed, under construction, in negotiations or under consideration in Los Angeles County. With new transit projects nearing or now under construction, there are additional joint development opportunities. Metro currently draws approximately $20 million per year in revenues from its use of properties, including joint development sites. However, its primary reason for pursuing joint development is to repurpose properties needed during transit line construction and turn them into public assets that include new housing, commercial and retail amenities while helping reduce automobile trips. Metro has helped revitalize entire areas of the county, including Downtown Los Angeles, Pasadena and Hollywood as a result of its growing transit system and joint development program.  **Go Metro and Experience Môfo**  Go Metro to see Môfo perform FORRÓ, (pronounced fo-haw) an Accordion-driven, hip-swiveling dance music from the northeast of Brazil at Union Station. Môfo is Los Angeles’ only group playing in the traditional "pé de serra" style of forró, which features the accordion, guitar, zabumba, triangle, agogô (coco), and voice. Forró encompasses various styles of music and dance including côco, baião, xaxado, and xote originating in the northeast of Brazil but having achieved widespread popularity throughout the country and abroad. The performance will take placeFriday, August 22, 2014, with doors opening at 7:45 p.m. There will be two 45 minute sets beginning at 8:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Dance lessons begin at 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in the Union Station Fred Harvey Room. Admission is free but space is limited and attendees will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more about this event, and other Union Station events, please click [here](http://www.metro.net/about/union-station/). | |
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